

Art Unit: 1600

CLMPTO

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Claim 1 (Original)

1. A relay for use in telecommunications equipment, said relay comprising:

- a receiver (R) adapted to receive an information stream consisting of information cells, some of which can be empty,
- a mixer (M) adapted to detect the empty information cells and replace them with waiting cells, and
- a transmitter (E) adapted to transmit the information cells to a receiver outside said telecommunications satellite,

which relay is characterized in that it further comprises a stream analyzer (A) for determining if an information stream received by said receiver is a real-time information stream or a differed-time information stream and for storing differed-time information stream cells in a mass memory (MM) and in that said mixer is adapted to choose said waiting cells from among the cells stored in said mass memory.

Claim 2 (Original)

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2. A relay according to claim 1, further comprising a deleter (D) for deleting an information cell stored in said mass memory when it has been sent by said transmitter to said receiver.

3. (Amended)A relay according to claim 1, wherein said mixer is adapted to choose said waiting cells as a function of time scheduling rules.

Claim 4 (Original)

4. A method comprising the steps of:

- receiving an information stream made up of information cells, some of which can be empty,
- detecting empty information cells,
- replacing said empty information cells with waiting cells, and
- transmitting information cells,

which method is characterized in that it further comprises the steps of:

- determining if an information stream is a real-time information stream or a differed-time information stream, and
- storing differed-time information stream cells, and in that said waiting cells are chosen from among the stored information cells.

5. (Amended)A method according to claim 4, further comprising a step of deleting a stored information cell when it has been sent.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein in said waiting cells are chosen as function of time scheduling rules.